Governor Scott Walker Secretary Eloise Anderson

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For Immediate Release

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Child Care Provider Sentenced for Fraud

Due to the continued focus of the Department of Children and Families (DCF) and Milwaukee law enforcement to stop fraud in the Wisconsin Shares program, Beatrice Johnson, license holder for Bee's Day Care, was sentenced Thursday to six months in jail, three years of probation and \$13,000 of restitution for stealing from taxpayers.

Ms. Johnson was suspended from the Wisconsin Shares program by DCF in September 2009 and was convicted in November 2011 of felony theft by fraud. The suspension of Ms. Johnson was one of the first success stories of the Department's joint anti-fraud efforts with the Milwaukee Child Care Anti-Fraud Task Force. Had the Department not implemented a "red flag" system to detect anomalies in the Shares program, the cost to the taxpayers from Ms. Johnson's fraudulent activities could have been much greater.

"Preventing, detecting and recovering fraudulent payments to the Wisconsin Shares program is a top priority for the Department," said DCF Secretary Eloise Anderson. "Through our joint efforts with the district attorney's office and law enforcement we will continue to vigorously pursue and hold accountable those who steal from Wisconsin taxpayers."

Governor Scott Walker is committed to eliminating waste, fraud and abuse of public funds. By tackling fraud in Wisconsin Shares, the Department of Children and Families has saved taxpayers over \$130 million.

These charges are a result of the collaborative work by the Milwaukee Child Care Anti-Fraud Task Force, led by the Department of Children and Families and the Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office, which works collaboratively to investigate and prosecute child care fraud. The joint effort also includes the Milwaukee Police Department, Milwaukee County Sheriff's Department, Wisconsin Department of Justice, Wisconsin Department of Revenue, and the Internal Revenue Service.

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